Mandi Pool

Why Do Clouds Look Different Every Day?

URL: <http://www.brainpop.com/science/weather/clouds/preview.weml>

Grades: 3-5

Summary: I would begin my lesson on clouds by showing this video on Brain Pop. The video explains what clouds are made of as well as how to decipher what kind of clouds are in the sky. After watching this video, I would take my class outside during Science class for a week. We will record what we see in the sky every day and talk about it. My students will use their journals to record whatever they see. They must draw pictures so they can remember what each cloud was, and write a description of what they see. In the meantime, I will be taking pictures of the different clouds and at the end of the week I will put them on the Elmo as we discuss our recordings.

How Does Salt Melt Ice?

URL: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/ice/activities/investigations/melting_point/>

Grades: 3-5

Summary: This website is a science experiment for the students to try. It is to see what makes salt melt ice so quickly. How does it happen? I will use this website as an example to follow. The students will get in groups and try this together. They are going to predict in their Experiment Journals what happens when salt is poured on ice. After predicting, the students will give it a try. Each group will have a magnifying glass, a plat, two ice cubes, and some salt. As they are experimenting, I will stop them to explain what a melting point is. The students will record everything that they see.

The Butterfly Diaries

URL: <http://questgarden.com/131/99/4/110926073058/>

Grades: 4-5

Summary: This website is a webquest for students to follow the process of butterfly metamorphosis. In groups, the students will write a diary in the perspective of a butterfly, from when it was first an egg, then a caterpillar, then a cocoon, then finally a butterfly. Every student will have a specific task such as someone writing neatly in the diary, someone being responsible for the webquest, etcetera. As the students are writing in the perspective of the butterfly, they will be learning an incredible amount of information rather than from me lecturing about the stages of development.

Static Electricity

URL: <http://www.sciencemadesimple.com/static.html>

Grades: 3-5

Summary: This website is a great resource for students to understand what static electricity is and where it comes from. I will go over the website with the class first, and then they will do an experiment. I will have balloons already blown up and give one to each student. I will explain the reason for the balloons so they do not intentionally pop them. If that does occur, they will not be able to conduct the experiment. Next, students are going to rub the balloon against their jacket or hair and remove the balloon. They will notice that everyone’s hair will be straight in the air. We will also rub the balloon on jackets or hair again and then place the balloon on the wall. The students will see how a charged object attracts to something neutral.

Your Weight on Other Worlds

URL: <http://www.exploratorium.edu/ronh/weight/index.html>

Grades: 3-5

Summary: First I will explain to the class the difference between weight and mass. Then, I will describe that our weight on Earth is different than our weight on any other planet, moon, or star. It’s incredible what gravity can do! I will use this website to enlighten the students with their weight on Earth compared to Jupiter. We will go more into depth where the formula came from.